Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

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O R 241600Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3530

CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 3638

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (MCGOVERN, GEORGE) SUBJECT: CODEL MCGOVERN

REF: BEIRUT 3483

1. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED FROM LEBANESE ARMY G-2 OF CODEL'S LETTER TO GENERAL GHANEM REQUESTING TRIP TO SOUTH LEBANON (INCLUDING VILLAGE OF KFAYR) DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. WE ARE READY TO ALTER ITINERARY (REFTEL) AS CODEL SEES FIT BUT BELIEVE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED TRIP:

FIRST, TRIP WOULD CONSUME AT LEAST TEN DAYLIGHT
HOURS OUT OF AN ALREADY CROWDED SCHEDULE ARRANGED BY
EMBASSY AND CLOVIS MAQSOUD. SECOND AND MORE IMPORTANT
IS FRANK ADMISSION BY ARMY THAT WHILE THEY ARE WILLING
TO COMPLY WITH CODEL'S WISHES THEY WOULD BE VERY
CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY. BECAUSE ARMY AS USUAL IS
RELUCTANT TO ADMIT ITS LACK OF TOTAL CONTROL EVERYWHERE
IN LEBANON;, ITS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN SHOULD
BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY RPT SERIOUSLY. SITUATION IN SOUTH
LEBANON, PARTICULARLY IN ARQUB REGION, HAS ALTERED SINCE
SENATOR ABOUREZK'S VISIT AND LATTER AREA NOW CAN
BEST BE DESCRIBED AS "INDIAN COUNTRY".

2. RE REQUEST CONVEYED CAIRO 2973 THAT CODEL'S HOTEL RESERVATIONS BE CHANGED FROM PHOENICIA TO ST. GEORGES HOTEL, REGRET WE UNABLE COMPLY BECAUSE OF OVERBOOKING. CONFIDENTIAL

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N	/largaret P.	Grafeld Decla	assified/Relea	ased US Dep	partment of S	State EO Syst	tematic Revie	w 05 JUL 2006
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 24 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BEIRLIT03638

Document Number: 1975BEIRUT03638 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750102-0496

From: BEIRUT

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750323/aaaaauqq.tel

Line Count: 61 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION H Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 BEIRUT 3483 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: WorrelSW

Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: Review Date: 30 JUL 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <02 DEC 2003 by WorrelSW>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CODEL MCGOVERN
TAGS: OREP, (MCGOVERN, GEORGE)

To: JIDDA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006